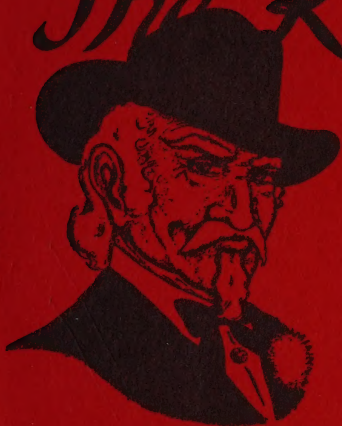


The Kentucky Colonel



THE STUDENTS MAGAZINE OF THE KENTUCKY SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

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by the

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FACULTY ADVISERS

Mr. L. P. Howser

Miss Lula May Wash

Mr. William F. Davis

IN RETROSPECT

Last June Mrs. Helen McDaniel resigned after thirty-one years of service as instructor at the Kentucky School for the Blind. Her excellent teaching and her interest in the progress of every student will long be remembered. While all of this is very true, it is also very formal and tells us little of Mrs. McDaniel's personal qualities. Therefore, I should like to share with you some of the most vivid memories of my first year at school when Mrs. McDaniel was my teacher.

The year was 1938 and the depression had not loosened its hold on the nation. Parents did not travel back and forth to visit their children as they do today, and we were often homesick and in need of a little special attention. It was "Miss Helen" (the name we used in those days) who was the central figure in my pleasant memories of that first year. I met her in the afternoon of the day I arrived and liked her on the spot.

The next few weeks were spent in learning the alphabet, which she pre-

sented in an imaginative and interesting manner. Because of her excellent teaching and love of books, the class progressed rapidly through the primers and into more advanced reading. By Christmas we were encouraged to do outside reading and soon became familiar with such books as Everyday Classics, New Friends, and Under the Story Tree, just to name a few. If teaching us to appreciate the joys of reading had been her only contribution, it would have been a great one. But there were many other contributions.

Mrs. McDaniel appreciates beauty and made our surroundings attractive and gay. The classroom was always decorated in accordance with the holidays. She made paper pumpkins, black cats, witches and all of the traditional spooks for Halloween. Christmas was the most delightful time of all. We had a beautifully decorated tree in the midst of a fairyland of color and festivity. With her assistance we made our own valentines and Easter baskets for the final two holidays of the school year.

Throughout the year we learned poems to suit every occasion. One of these was a four-line tribute to a mushroom, and runs as follows:

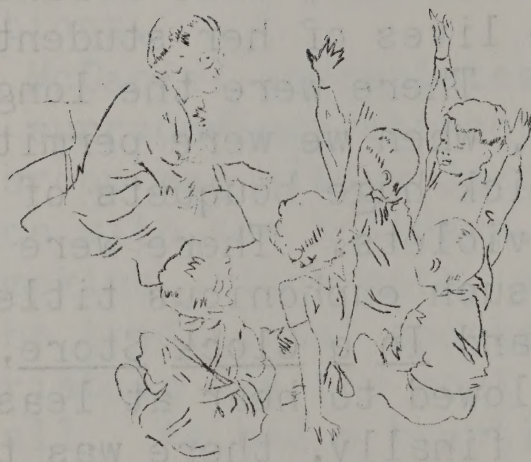
Little toadstool umbrellas,
They never stay long, not they;
But they kindly plant some others
Before they go away.

How beautiful those four lines are! We regret that in this scientific age children seldom even read poetry, and certainly are not expected to memorize it.

As you can see, Mrs. McDaniel enriched the lives of her students in so many ways. There were the long walks in the spring, when we were permitted to stop and pick huge bouquets of dandelions and violets. There were the records with such euphonious titles as The Music Box and In a Clock Store, which we were allowed to hear at least once a week. And finally, there was that marvelous and infectious sense of humor which often caused her to put down the load of books she was carrying in order to laugh vigorously over some joke or incident.

poem We could go on and on, but space does not permit. I might say in conclusion, however, that I have observed that her class in 1964 admired and loved her as much as did the students in 1938. That says a great deal, doesn't it?

Imogene Risch
Teacher



HONOR ROLL

Second Grading Period

12th Grade

Carla Dotson
Jack Gearheard
Nancy Lewis
Adam Ruschival
Pauline Tuell

10th Grade

Cathy Brothers
Larry Cook
Barbara Heun
Faye Mills

8th Grade

Deanna Yaeger

7th Grade

Teddy Lisle
Leslie Stephens

Above students had an average of 88 or higher.

Elementary Students

Ronnie Cook	Roger Dale Smith
Rex Smallwood	Vickie Collins
Kathy Szinnyey	Ella Louise Street
Georgia Deaton	Mike Wagner
Karen Lynn Collins	

Elementary students must have no grade lower than a B to be on the Honor Roll.

Third Grading Period

12th Grade

Carla Dotson
Jack Gearheard
Nancy Lewis
Adam Ruschival

10th Grade

Cathy Brothers
Barbara Heun
Faye Mills

8th Grade

Hubert Davis
Denise Holland
Deanna Yaeger

7th Grade

Teddy Lisle
Leslie Stephens

Elementary Students

Linda Beatty
Roger Dale Smith
Karen Lynn Collins
Georgia Deaton
Vickie Collins

Fourth Grading Period

12th Grade

Carla Dotson
Jack Gearheard
Adam Ruschival
David Wilson

10th Grade

Cathy Brothers
Barbara Heun
Faye Mills
Carolyn Truitt

8th Grade	7th Grade
Hubert Davis	Teddy Lisle
Deanna Yaeger	Leslie Stephens

Elementary Students	
Linda Beatty	Perry Knight
Janice Willis	Michael Wagner
Vicky Collins	Karen Lynn Collins

WE WON, BUT WE DIDN'T

It was a sunny Saturday morning on November 14. Five girls -- three cheerleaders and two alternates -- waited patiently. Then came the station wagon with Mrs. Nolan at the wheel. In the middle seat, in a reclining position, was the fourth cheerleader.

This merry party was going to Bowling Green to visit Western Kentucky State College. The purpose: a clinic for the betterment of cheerleading throughout the western portion of the state.

The one hundred and fifty schools present were divided into three sections: those with five hundred students

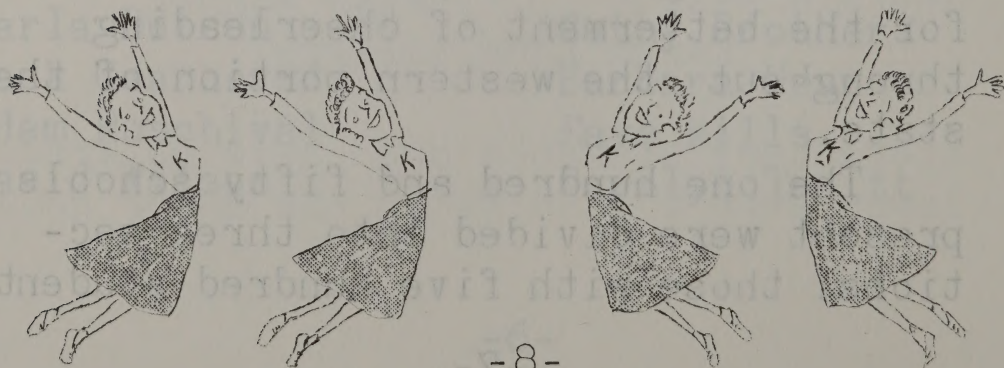
// or less, those with five to nine hundred, and those with an enrollment over nine hundred. Naturally, we were in the first section.

Each school represented gave a yell before the gathering. Our section came last, but we did not find it difficult to wait.

After all these yells, the Western varsity cheerleaders chose three schools from each section to participate in the semi-finals. We were chosen fifth among these nine. Were we ever elated!

We did not make the finals, but it was a joyful day just the same. In first place was College High; second, Owensboro; and third, Scottsville. Since we did not expect to come even close to entering the semi-finals, we felt as if we had won the whole competition.

Carla Dotson
12th Grade



YOUR STUDENT COUNCIL

The goal toward which your Student Council is working is "Improvement of the Council and of the School in 1965." We have been attempting to achieve this in two ways: by sponsoring an essay contest whose theme is "How to Improve the New Year," and by requiring the various committees to have regular meetings and to solve, or submit to higher authorities, problems in their respective fields of endeavor.

Since you already know about the contest, I shall discuss it only briefly. After we had decided to sponsor the essay contest, an anonymous donor gave us twenty-five dollars, and we shall use it as an award for the best essay. The essays shall be sent off campus to be judged in order to eliminate any possible chance of partiality. For this reason, they must be typed. This contest seems to be more popular than the previous one -- perhaps because the prize is somewhat larger!

In my opinion, the rules set up for the better organization of the committees

will benefit everyone more in the long run than any essay contest possibly can, even though the latter does, presumably, strengthen school spirit. Here are the rules that have been made for the better functioning of these committees:

1. Every committee shall have an official meeting at least every two weeks unless there is absolutely no business which can be discussed or resolved.

2. Every committee shall submit a written report at each long meeting. The long meetings take place every other Wednesday.

3. Every committee shall make it its business to find and attempt to solve with all possible haste any problems which may apply to its respective field.

You, the committees, should remember that without your support your Student Council is like a book without a reader. Without your support your Student Council is nothing and can do nothing for you or with you.

Jack Gearheard
Secretary

YOUTH SPEAKS

Saturday, February 20, the thirteenth annual workshop of Youth Speaks was held at Sacred Heart Academy. We summarized governmental, cultural and international censorship.

The all-day meeting had two general sessions and two periods of group discussion. The average group was twenty people.

In the evening, three excellent speakers, Mr. James Pope, managing editor of the Courier-Journal, Lieutenant Colonel E. W. Samell, assistant chief of staff at Fort Knox, and Mr. Ollie Mer-shan, member of Citizens for Decent Literature, spoke to us on censorship. This was followed by a question-and-answer period. We then filled out evaluation forms in order to improve next year's workshop.

We were dismissed after the benediction. Everyone participating in the meeting went home with a satisfied feeling of better understanding of our country's form of censorship.

Jo Ann Cox

PARTY CALENDAR

Christmas Festivities

December 12--We had a dance after we decorated the gymnasium for the Yule season.

December 13--Open House at Huntoon. This was their tenth anniversary of Open House, and they outdid themselves in their decorations and refreshments.

December 16--Annual Christmas Cantata. We went caroling afterwards.

December 17--Merwin Hall Christmas party.

December 18-- School Christmas party with members of the Lions Club present, and dear old Santa as delightful as always.

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January 9--We had a party for the Tennessee wrestlers and everybody enjoyed it thoroughly. We danced and got to know better our guests from the Frontier State. We are grateful to Miss Hartford for the refreshments.

January 23--At the party and dance for the Ohio wrestlers, several of the students entertained us and thus added

to the pleasure of all.

February 6--We had our Valentine Party for fifth through twelfth grades. Everybody received a heart with a number on it as he and she entered. Then the boy found the girl with his matching heart. That was fun and an excellent mixer. Dancing, comedy skits and contests in which couples were chosen for contestants, valentine refreshments and gay conversation made the evening truly delightful.

The crowning feature of the party was the election of the king, queen, prince and princess. You could vote as often as you wished, but each vote cost a penny. The pennies were given to the Heart Fund. King, Hubert Davis; Queen, Jo Ann Cox; Prince, Greg Holmes (Rex Smallwood was crowned prince in the absence of Greg); Princess, Sheila Sosh. First runner-up for king and queen were Earl Moore and Pauline Tuell, but in Pauline's absence Phyllis Burton marched in the royal parade.

February 26--Tonight we had a "social." There was not a minute in which to be bored for we had a choice

of dancing or playing games. We played bingo, checkers and any kind of card game you might mention. We could engage in each activity for an hour only, and this provided for much variety.

Barbara Heun
Party Secretary

HOME ECONOMICS CLASS

On February 21, Loma Huddleston and I, two of the four senior girls, became residents in the Home Economics Apartment. This is the first home management project we have had in our new and very complete Home Economics Department.

The purpose of this project is to give prospective graduates practice in housekeeping skills. We must cook at least one meal a day (preferably supper), thoroughly clean the entire suite, entertain guests often, and serve dinner to various persons.

This project is divided into three sections and will last about nine weeks. It is intended to aid the girls in their future lives, and it certainly will.

Carla Dotson
12th Grade

A banquet was given on Friday evening, February 12, in honor of the girls of the Home Economics Department, grades ten through twelve, with grades six through nine serving it. Later the order will be reversed.

My duties were to show the guests to their places and then to serve one table. For entertainment we had invited a guitar player, but he could not come. We had an excellent speaker -- Mr. Williams, pastor of the Clifton Baptist Church. Everyone enjoyed his talk very much.

Our menu consisted of turkey, green beans, sweet potatoes, congealed salad, and pudding for dessert. We did all the cleaning up.

The banquet was a success. The juniors and seniors enjoyed getting dressed up in their prettiest frocks, and the servers felt they gained poise in performing their duties.

Cecelia Bidwell
9th Grade

BIG SISTER ORGANIZATION

It all began during a discussion on child care in the junior-senior home economics class. Jo Ann introduced the idea, and Mrs. Chisam agreed to consult the houseparents and the administration to secure their approval.

Any girl from grades eight through twelve may be a big sister if she has the time to spare. All the students in Allan and Patten Cottages are the little sisters and brothers. Each participating member has chosen a little girl, and in many cases, a little boy for a little sister and brother. My little sister is Nancy Cox from Mrs. Wornack's first grade, and my little brother is Daryl Tinsley from Miss Kaufman's second grade.

We are not maintaining this organization just to have something different to do. There are many useful ways in which both age groups may profit. It gives the children individual attention and love -- they have a special friend who comes to see them, tell them stories, plays games with them, goes for walks,

and, most important, listens to their ideas. The big sister also attempts to teach new skills -- tying shoe laces and hat strings. The big sister will do anything from giving out spelling words to playing cowboys and Indians.

The big sisters also benefit: We learn more about children's ideas, their interests and their problems. We learn that the child who is not "cute" and is also slow in school should not be pushed aside. In fact, these children are the ones who most need a big sister.

The housemothers benefit, also. It is next to impossible for them to give each child the attention that he needs. Now she can pursue her many other tasks without feeling that she has not listened properly to the personal problem of each child.

The Big Sister Organization will be successful because all concerned are interested. The activities are not planned ahead; each day brings new experiences. Everyone has a good time -- that's what really makes the organization.

Carla Dotson
12th Grade

THE CHEERLEADERS AND THE NCASB TOURNAMENT

Destructive? Of Course Not!

It was a cold Thursday morning, January 28. Dawn was breaking around the shivering group of wrestlers and cheerleaders gathered in front of the gym waiting to board the bus and station wagon for Jacksonville, Illinois and the NCASB tournament. When we left K.S.B. no one anticipated the troubles that lay ahead.

Our first hint of an unlucky trip came about forty miles this side of Indianapolis. The girls were happily chugging along in the station wagon without a care in the world when we became conscious of ice pounding against the car. The road became so slick that Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Nolan were afraid to drive. What to do? After consulting with Mr. Howser by long distance phone, we transferred to the bus -- luggage and all. We left the station wagon parked in the snow.

We hadn't gone far on the bus until everybody began to freeze. My feet were so cold that I couldn't tell if they were still there. We wrapped ourselves in blankets, but these were ineffective after a short time. I suggested that we try sitting on our toes, but no matter what we did with how many blankets, the icy air still cut right through.

Bad luck decided to go farther -- five miles from somewhere, the bus broke down. While Mr. Evans and Mr. Craignyle hitchhiked back to a filling station, we turned into blocks of ice. After the bus limped back to the filling station, we were told that it would take two days to repair it.

Again Mr. Howser received a long-distance phone call. He authorized us to rent a bus from the school district in which we were located.

On the second bus we rolled into Jacksonville -- well, not quite! Three blocks from the school it quit, too.

Carla Dotson
12th Grade

Queen of the Conference

During the tournament, another contest was being held. For the first time a girl was to be selected from the cheerleading squads to be conference queen. There were twelve girls, each eager and excited, but frightened. The points for judging were: poise, appearance, courtesy, the ability to make friends, getting along with others, and ability as a cheerleader.

After the pep rally Friday morning all the queen candidates introduced themselves by telling home town, age, color of hair and eyes, height and the activities in which she participated at her school. Each was presented with a star to signify her candidacy and to assist the judges in making their selection.

The cheerleading clinic was held on Saturday morning. Each queen candidate was required to lead a cheer. This was to give the judges a knowledge of her leadership ability.

Other activities at the clinic included competition among all the squads, learning a new cheer, chants and motions.

Everyone grew more tense as time crept by. Just before the consolation finals Saturday evening, the winner and runner-up were announced. The girls from Michigan won the first-place trophy and the girls from Minnesota carried home the second.

At last the big moment had arrived. It was time for the coronation of the queen and her court. All the candidates were again introduced to the crowd. The queen's court was composed of three girls -- from Iowa, Michigan and Minnesota. The queen, whose duty it was to present the awards to the individual wrestlers as well as to the teams, was the hostess candidate from Illinois.

We all enjoyed our stay in Illinois, and would like to go back for another round of fun and good old Illinois hospitality.

Cathy Brothers
10th Grade

Steps Beat Elevator

The cheerleaders stayed at the Dunlap Hotel. The furnishings were comfort-

able, but other memories will be unforgettable.

Saturday night after all the trophies and honors had been presented, we returned to our hotel about twelve o'clock. We procured our room keys at the desk and then asked the question, "Are we going to walk or take the elevator?" We were so tired that we preferred the elevator, but the sponsors wanted to walk to the fifth floor. We compromised and called it a race -- the cheerleaders took the elevator and Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Nolan took the stairs. We were positive that we would win. We knew that we passed our opponents on the third floor, for we heard them calling gaily to each other as they raced along. Upon reaching the fifth floor, we shouted for victory. We ran into the hall with delight, planning to reach our rooms before "the older, less-able-bodied" persons arrived. There, right in the center of the hall, lay Mrs. Evans; over against the wall was Mrs. Nolan, shaking with laughter. They had actually beaten us -- had out-run an elevator! Mrs. Evans had collapsed with

exhaustion. We helped them to their room and then went to our own to wonder at the extraordinary occurrences of the past few minutes.

Loma Huddleston
12th Grade

THE FIGHTING WILDCATS

After a one-week lay-off following track season, K.S.B.'s Wildcats rolled out the mats for the 1964-'65 wrestling season. The first day of practice was filled with unusual spirit and energy, and it did not drop during the season.

The Wildcats placed third in the White Cane Tournament with Indiana and Illinois, had a two and seven in dual matches, placed seventh in the NCASB Tournament (third in the B division), and fourth in the Kentucky State Tournament. However, this record does not show a true picture of the good wrestling that was displayed by the Wildcats. Three of the seven dual matches that we lost were lost because of forfeit points, and a fourth would have

been a tie except for forfeit points. For instance, we lost to Seneca 30 to 23, but 10 of Seneca's points were forfeit points.

Following are the individual records:

Major Letter Winners

	Weight	Won	Lost	Tied
Joe Gary Flint	95	6	9	0
Larry Cook	103	7	5	0
Larry Crowe	112	17	2	0
Richard Lewis	120	7	7	0
Adam Ruschival	127	15	2	2
Eddie Myers	133	5	4	3
Larry Kerr	154	6	7	0
James Earl Hardin	165	20	0	0

Minor Letter Winners

	Weight	Won	Lost	Tied
Grady Curlin	127	1	6	0
Joe Triplett	133	0	14	0
Glenn Stephens	138	0	5	0
Earl Moore	Hv.Wt.	0	12	0

The Wildcats won a total of 84 matches, 41 by pins. They lost 73 matches, 35 by pins; and had 5 ties. They had

place winners in the NCASB and the Kentucky State Tournaments. These were as follows:

	State	NCASB
Larry Cook	4th	
Larry Crowe	1st	3rd
Adam Ruschival	1st	3rd
Eddie Myers	4th	
James Earl Hardin	1st	1st

As you can see, there was no lack of effort by the wrestlers.

Probably the greatest effort of the year came during the state tournament. This consisted of five sessions and was witnessed by some 2,500 people. This tournament was held at Ahrens High School gym, and Ahrens was the reigning champion. With sixteen teams determined to take the championship away from Ahrens, the Wildcats determined to be one of the main contenders. However, Ahrens sent eight into the finals while the Wildcats sent in three. All the Wildcats took first places, while Ahrens took only four firsts. Still K.S.B. wrestlers made a good showing.

Throughout the season, good spirit and hard work paid for itself by fine competition and excellent wrestling. With this year's first-year varsity wrestlers coming back as experienced wrestlers, and with the experienced ones on this year's team returning also, our team next year should be formidable.

A Star Wildcat

During the wrestling season, probably the hardest working and most-sought-after person is the manager. Mac Campbell, a star Wildcat, finds being manager quite a trying occupation. Mac was in the fifth grade when he enrolled here, and now he is a sophomore. He is a hard-working and friendly person. He is a native of Hazard, Kentucky. His favorite subject in school is mathematics.

Mac wrestled in 112 and the 120 weight classes, but he had to stop after a year and a half because of injuries to his ankles which he had sustained when he was younger. He is now a veteran manager of five years, having started in this capacity immediately after he gave up wrestling.

His jobs are keeping the uniforms clean and giving them out, taking care of the medicine kit, taking care of personal belongings of the team members, and running errands. When I asked him what the hardest part of being a manager was, he immediately answered, "The boys."

Even though he is given a rough time, he stands up to it, works hard, and is still well liked. Adam Ruschival
12th Grade

TWO STUDENTS PASS AWAY

Clayton Adams came to school in November, 1962, at the age of fifteen. Because of his poor health and gradually failing sight, he had had very little time in public school. He was a quiet, happy boy. He became very ill Thursday, November 12, and he died the following Monday. He was buried at his home near Upton in Hopkins County.

Rickie Marshall enrolled at the age of seven last September. He was in Mrs. Womrack's first grade. Rickie had a delightful sense of humor and was well

liked by the other children. He went home for the Christmas holidays and did not return to school. He died January 15, at Load in Greenup County

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Associated Blind, Inc., has prepared an illustrated folder entitled "Our Ten Commandments for the Sighted," designed to smooth over some of the rough spots that often occur in the daily relationship between the blind and the seeing. This folder is available without charge. A stamped self-addressed return envelope is required. Write The Associated Blind, Inc., 147 West 23rd Street, New York, New York 10011.

This association has also fashioned our American Flag so that blind people can discern with their fingers the alternate red and white stripes and the fifty white stars on the field of blue. The composition of the flag has smooth nylon for the red stripes, duvetyn for the white stripes and the field of blue in cotton with the white stars heavily

embroidered thereon. It is 2x3 feet and has grommets on the upper corners convenient for hanging. The flags are available at \$6.00 each.

Beacon Lodge-Camp for the Blind, located in Central Pennsylvania, will conduct its sixteenth camping program this summer beginning June 26. The program will include a nine-week session for children between ages six and seventeen years, and a nine-week session for adults. For complete information write to Beacon Lodge-Camp for the Blind, Box 22, Lewiston, Pennsylvania.

ALUMNI NEWS LETTER

Dear Alumnus:

Isn't this KENTUCKY COLONEL a wonderful way to keep in touch? You will be pleased to know that K.S.B. has seven graduates this year. Our association is proud to have paid \$70.00 toward the purchase of their class rings. These are now on order, and seven anxious

seniors are waiting for their arrival.

After some consultation with workers at the school, our Board chose one worthy college student to receive \$15.00 monthly from our Educational Fund. It is felt that this procedure will prove to be more beneficial. Now, you know why we need money.

A number of our members, who have been participating in the Tri-Sight Bowling League this year, will invade Washington, D.C. the latter part of May. There they will represent us in the National Bowling League. The trip will be made by train and sponsored by the Lions Club. Keep up the good work, gang.

THE KENTUCKY COLONEL for May will carry the schedule for our June meeting. Are you making your plans to be there? We are planning to see you.

Betty J. Niceley
Corresponding Secretary



BE SURE TO
MARK
YOUR
CALENDAR

LITERARY DEPARTMENT

When the Day Begins

One day last week I awoke about 5:30. It was much too early to rise, so I lay very still and listened. I hadn't realized before how beautiful is the beginning of the day.

In a tree near the house a bird broke the silence of night. Later another bird answered the call, and soon all the birds, one by one, had joined in the chorus.

Then I heard a different sound which came from far away. I sat up and listened more intently. What was it? As the sound became more audible I realized that it was a church bell chiming that the day had begun. Mingled with the sounds of the birds, this was truly more beautiful than any human can sing.

A milk truck came rumbling up the street, and at that moment a whistle blew telling me that it was six o'clock. As the milk truck came closer, a band of barking dogs greeted it.

Somewhere I heard a door slam; then there were footsteps in the yard next door. Mr. Bayles had arisen and was going to get the morning paper. Slowly, slowly the noises of daily activities increased. But how beautiful is the beginning when the world stirs and finally arises from its night's slumber!

Barbara Heun
10th Grade

-*-

A Suggestion

There are so many things an instructor
can't see,
And one's just how boring classes can be;
Oh, perhaps he's beginning to realize
That he's got to look at them through
the student's eyes.

Now take Mr. Haynes; he doesn't weep
When everyone in history goes to sleep.
He just turns off his monotone (which is
quite boring)
And begins to shout, "Hey, Bud, quit
snoring!"

Over there's Mrs. White -- she's really
nice --

She's let us listen to rock-'n-roll
twice!

And when we converse, she doesn't care
So long as we don't scream and give her
a scare.

Mrs. Chisam's really got the one idea --
While sewing, we discuss dates and
onomatopoeia.

And in physical education, she assumes
a dry tone:

"On the floor for push-ups!" You could
hear the groan.

In these many courses we've permission,
we're proud,
To express our desires, and express them
aloud.

Even Mr. Haynes doesn't shout and whine
If we awake long enough to unburden our
mind.

In that class the sports fans need no
shaking,
For football's history, and history's
in the making!

Throughout the year it is repeatedly
discussed --

The Cardinal-Wildcat rivalry between
the teacher and us.

But none of this "commotion" in English
with Miss Lu;

She rules her pupils with a steel-toed
shoe!

And if they upset her plans in the least,
She boils them in cauldron -- has a feast!

And, in her room, if you don't know your
lessons,

She'll be sure to ask you a hundred ques-
tions.

For the happiness of her students, in my
opinion,

Miss Lu shouldn't be so strict over her
tiny dominion.

Carla Dotson
12th Grade

--

A Touch of Chivalry

Chivalry is exemplified in a person
who is brave, tolerant, steadfast, for-
giving, slow to anger but firm in his

convictions, and willing to go through something even if the odds are against him.

I believe our choir director fits that definition. She has the ability to lead a group, to keep order, to go through with a performance when half the choir is absent; to me, this is courage and the desire to produce beauty with what she has at hand. Our choir director have nerves of steel; she goes through even when everything else goes wrong. It fills me with pride to watch her at work. There is nothing that can build spirit in a choir so much as to hear the leader singing with the various groups. The choir reflects the director, because the enthusiasm that the choir exhibits comes from the director. Our choir director shows the best virtues of chivalry.

Nancy Lewis
12th Grade

-*-

Our Pets

Little Dog Lost

Tinker is my chihuahua. I have owned her for over a year. During this time I have become quite attached to the lovable, lively bit of energy; the whole family is attached to her. My father especially loves her. We thought nothing could happen to Tinker; no one would take her from us.

But we were quite wrong. Wednesday evening, while Mother was preparing supper, a car drove into our yard and turned. We thought nothing of this because the people who own our house are always doing it. At sight of the car, Tinker began to bark wildly, and we paid no attention when she stopped. After a half-hour when she didn't come in, Mother said to Father:

"I wonder why Tinker hasn't come in."

This made all of us start, and Father went outside to look for her, but he did not find her. I have never seen him so angry. He jumped into the car and drove away. Mother and I kept looking for Tinker and calling her, but she was not there.

Father returned. He said that in his search he saw a group of boys and men sitting on a porch. When the boys saw him stop, they all ran away. An old man made the boys come back. Then Father said, quite craftily, I thought:

"Have any of you seen a car go this way? A man was supposed to come to see me, but I just got home from work."

All the faces seemed to Father to pale, and one boy dropped his head, but they all answered "no" to his question. As Father was driving away he heard a boy yell:

"Why did you cowards run?"

When Father finished his story we all got into the car and began to search again. We drove all over Bullitt County. Mother wept; Father fumed, and I just prayed. Finally we gave up and returned home. When we drove into the yard, who was sitting on the front steps? Tinker! Father opened the car door and Tinker jumped into the front seat. Mother grabbed one end of her and I the other. We had the poor little thing completely confused.

It is our opinion that the boys saw Tinker on our porch, took her, and then fearing consequences to themselves, brought her back.

Midge Ball
10th Grade

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The Comedian at Our House

The comedian at our house is indeed an unusual one. He is a little yellow kitten named Jean Tom. He looks like a cat and mews like a cat, but his actions are almost human. For instance:

One day my father came home from work and sank into a chair in the living room. When he decided to take off his heavy work shoes, he discovered that Jean Tom was trying to pull them off for him -- by the laces. When Father tried to take the shoes off, the cat stood on his hind legs and had a fierce boxing match with him. We all laughed uproariously at the comedy.

Another boxing match occurred later in the evening when Father and Uncle were trying to set up the TV. They would move

the cord of the lead-in wire and Jean Tom would start swinging on it with full speed.

About two days after the boxing matches Mother was taking a bath and I was reading in the living room. Suddenly there came a loud "No" from within the bathroom. I inquired through the door:

"What in the world is the matter?"

"Jean Tom is trying to get into the water with me! He startled me, and that is why I yelled," Mother said.

Through other actions of his, we found that he was thirsty and he would do anything for a drink, even share the bath with Mother.

He will sleep anywhere. One day we found him asleep on the back of the toilet, and another time he was asleep in the bath tub. I conclude that Jean Tom is an exceptional cat.

Carolyn Truitt
10th Grade

CARNIVAL

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